

# My life in 'Pub Years'

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Editor-in-Chief

When my dear Co- Editor-in-Chief Steph Mills and I reflected on our freshman year as submissive, overly zealous, and befuddled LO'T reporters, we realized that the Publications Office of Moline High School evolved over a typical four-year period.

When I got my first glimpse of "the Pub", 'twas on the eve of my freshman orientation. The glimmering green lettering I saw down the b-wing hallway almost had an "emerald city" visage about it. My freshman instincts not only told me, "Shiny letters!" but also, "If it's a pub, then do they drink there?" After my freshman curiosities and idiocies ceased, I picked up the first LO'T issue and saw that a lot of the seniors who took pity on me were editors. Also, Steph, being the go-getter she is, already secured a spot on the news section staff AND an article to boot.

So I said to myself, playing off of a well-known local car dealership motto, "If Mills can, I sure as hell can!" Later that day, I approached one of the current

editors-in-chief, T.J. Cornelis who easily knew where to put an annoying, flaky, whacko of a freshman (a.k.a. myself): feature. Ah yes those were the days. Really though, I am extremely glad I started with such a fun and crazy section. The feature dudes took me under their frivolous and yet inspirational wings to show me the true lifestyle of the "Pub Kid." It was during my sophomore year that I walked into my first work night on the day of the paper deadline. I used to do the retiree articles, and this year I believe I interviewed like six or seven teachers.

On this last issue as I was typing frantically; I took time to look around at all the editors making the final touches to their respective sections. True they were getting the job done, but nothing beat the occasional John Holmes (Former Editor-in-Chief) solo to BYOB by System of a Down or Nick Babeu (Former Feature Editor) committing random acts of shenanigans on the other people in the lab.

It was then that I realized the pub kids were a very special group that were diverse but also loved to put out dynamite

seniors and juniors dwelling there at the time, she said, "They looked at me like I was purple!"

Really, anyone is allowed in the pub, it's just that usually the upperclassmen are the only ones who have real business to conduct in there.

The best part of the Pub was that it was a hangout besides being our base of operation. With six computers, a microwave, a fridge, several cameras, and this year, a futon (FUTON), it could suffice as a deluxe college dorm!


However, with a really cool office comes a lot of responsibility. Especially when you're an editor. In these last two years, I have learned that titles truly come with territories. Moving up to News Editor, I had to come up with articles, assign them to reporters, make

sure the articles got in on time, edit the articles, place the articles, and hope to god almighty the articles appealed to the general populous.

Most of that was not mastered within the first few issues, but once I picked up on this mind-probing process, I felt very accomplished in all the work put into the issues. But as time has flown by, I am now the guy making sure all articles are justified, ten-point times font, and so forth.

Overall, the Line O' Type has been very good to me, helping me grow as a writer, a leader, and a pub kid. And now it's time to steal somebody's food that's on the table and catch a few Z's on the futon. Oh, and THAT is my side of the story, and I hope to stick to it ...forever more.

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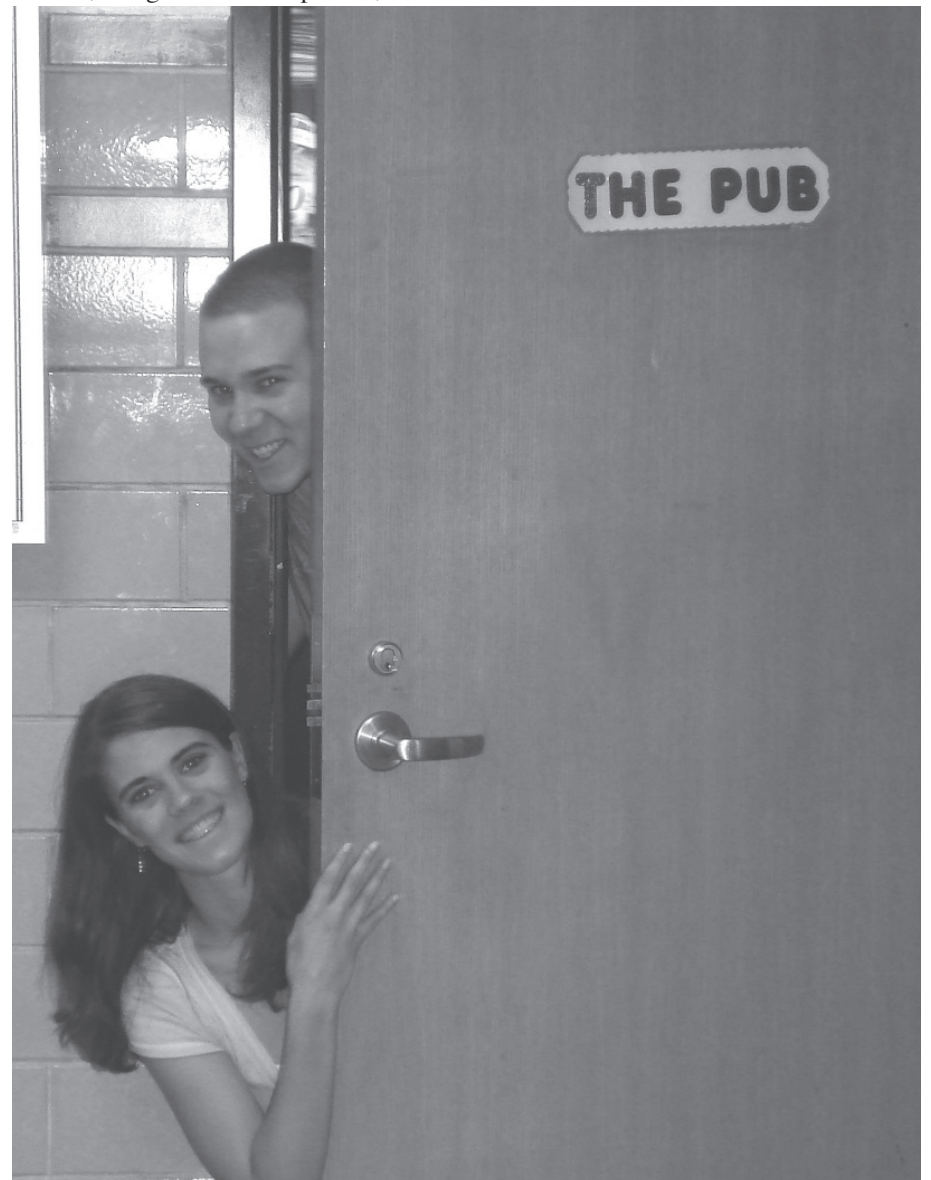
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newspapers, yearbooks, kaleidoscripts etc. etc. etc. Plus, we also have a home shared by all and for all: the Pub.

In my early years, the pub was a sanctum mystical and somewhat barred to underclassmen. While talking to Steph, she told me how she tried to find a time when no one was in the pub so she could dash in and without hesitating, smack her typed article up on the assignment board. When there were



Now that we have finally made our way INTO the Pub, we are preparing to leave. Funny, isn't it? (Photo by Sivakumar).